

**Before The
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554**

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY**In the Matter of**

**ADVANCED TELEVISION SYSTEMS
AND THEIR IMPACT UPON THE
EXISTING TELEVISION BROADCAST
SERVICE**

MM Docket 87-268**To: The Commission**

**REPLY COMMENTS OF AK MEDIA GROUP, INC., REGARDING
CHANGE IN CHANNEL ALLOTMENT FOR TELEVISION STATION KGET(TV)**

AK Media Group, Inc. ("AK Media"), licensee of television station KGET(TV), Bakersfield, California ("KGET"), by its attorneys, hereby submits its reply comments in the above-captioned proceeding. As is clearly demonstrated in the attached Engineering Statement, which is attached hereto and incorporated herein as Exhibit 1, the Commission's proposed draft DTV Table of Allotments unnecessarily assigns to KGET a DTV channel allotment that is outside of the core allotment region. Unless the Commission's proposed DTV Table of Allotments is modified to provide KGET with a channel allotment in the core allotment region, KGET will be placed at a significant competitive disadvantage. This is because, unlike the other television stations located in Bakersfield, California, KGET will be forced to make two unnecessary channel relocations during the transition from NTSC operation to DTV operation.

Accordingly, as will be more fully explained below, KGET respectfully requests that the Commission allot DTV Channel 8 to Bakersfield, California and permit KGET to substitute DTV

049

channel 8 for DTV channel 54 currently assigned to KGET by the Commission's Proposed Table of Allotments.

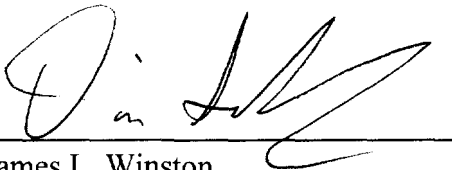
KGET's current NTSC transmission is carried on UHF Channel 17 with 5000 kilowatts peak visual effective radiated power (ERP) and with an antenna height above average terrain (HAAT) of 437 meters. KGET utilizes a directional antenna which minimizes radiation to the north-northeast, east, southeast, and south. In its Sixth Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, the Commission issued a draft Table of Allotments which proposed Digital Television (DTV) allotments for all currently authorized NTSC stations. This Draft Table of Allotments proposes to allot to KGET DTV channel 54, and has authorized KGET to transmit its DTV signal at 375 kW ERP with a 427 meter HAAT. The Commission's draft DTV Table of Allotments shows that KGET has been assigned a DTV channel that is outside the core region for UHF channels (the core region includes channels 14-51). Therefore, pursuant to the Commission's draft DTV Table of Allotments, following the interim period of joint NTSC and DTV operations, KGET will be forced to relocate its signal from its non-core DTV assignment of Channel 54 to its original NTSC channel assignment on channel 17.

As the attached Engineering Exhibit indicates, DTV Channel 8 can, pursuant to the minimum distance separation rules (§ 73.207 of the Commission's rules for NTSC allotments and the proposed DTV allocation criteria listed in the Sixth Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking), be allocated to Bakersfield, California. AK Media therefore respectfully requests that DTV Channel 8 be allocated to Bakersfield, California, and that the Commission reserve the new Channel 8 allotment for KGET.

Accordingly, in order to prevent KGET from being forced to operate at a significant competitive disadvantage, which will occur if KGET is forced to operate during the interim period from its currently-assigned non-core DTV channel, AK Media respectfully requests that the Commission modify the proposed DTV Table of Allotments by assigning DTV Channel 8 to Bakersfield, California and reserving this new DTV Channel 8 allotment for KGET.

Respectfully submitted,

AK MEDIA GROUP, INC.

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Dated: January 24, 1997

EXHIBIT 1

**ENGINEERING STATEMENT
RE COMMENTS IN MM DOCKET 87-268
TO ALLOT CHANNEL 8 (180-186 MHZ) AND
DELETE CHANNEL 54 FOR DTV OPERATION
KGET(TV), BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA**

JANUARY 1997

**COHEN, DIPPELL AND EVERIST, P.C.
CONSULTING ENGINEERS
RADIO AND TELEVISION
WASHINGTON, D.C.**

COHEN, DIPPELL AND EVERIST, P. C.

City of Washington)
) ss
District of Columbia)

Sudhir K. Khanna, being duly sworn upon his oath, deposes and states:

That he is a graduate electrical engineer, a registered professional engineer in the District of Columbia, and is Secretary-Treasurer of Cohen, Dippell and Everist, P.C., Consulting Engineers, Radio-Television, with offices at 1300 L Street, N.W., Suite 1100, Washington, D.C. 20005;

That his qualifications are a matter of record in the Federal Communications Commission;


That the attached engineering report was prepared by him or under his supervision and direction; and

That the facts stated herein are true of his own knowledge, except such facts as are stated to be on information and belief, and as to such facts, he believes them to be true.



Sudhir K. Khanna
District of Columbia
Professional Engineer
Registration No. 8057

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 23rd day of January, 1997.



Notary Public

My Commission Expires:

2/28/98

This engineering statement has been prepared on behalf of AK Media Group, Inc., licensee of television station KGET(TV), Bakersfield, California, in support of its comments in response to the Commission's Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making (FNPRM) in MM Docket 87-268 (In the Matter of Advanced Television Systems and Their Impact Upon the Existing Television Broadcast Service).

The present NTSC operation of station KGET(TV) is on UHF Channel 17 (488-494 MHz) with 5000 kW peak visual effective radiated power (ERP) and 427 meters antenna height above average terrain (HAAT). The station utilizes a directional antenna which minimizes radiation to the north-northeast, east, southeast, and south. In its Sixth FNPRM, the Commission has proposed a draft Table of Allotments for the currently authorized NTSC stations for digital television (DTV) operation. The Commission proposes to allot UHF channel 54 for KGET(TV) and has assigned 375 kW ERP and 427 meters HAAT for its DTV operation.

The Commission's proposed draft DTV Table of Allotments shows KGET(TV) has been assigned a DTV channel outside the core region for UHF channels (14-51). As such, KGET(TV) will have to relocate back to its original NTSC Channel 17 following the interim period of joint NTSC and DTV operations. Therefore, KGET(TV) is requesting a DTV channel in the core region (between channels 7-13) which would not require KGET(TV) to make an additional transition to its transmission system.

AK Media Group, Inc. respectfully requests consideration of its request to allot Channel 8 (180-186 MHz) to Bakersfield, California, for its DTV operation instead of

the proposed DTV Channel 54 (710-716 MHz). Therefore, AK Media Group, Inc. requests the Commission to reserve the new Channel 8 allotment for TV station KGET(TV).

The following amendment of the draft DTV Table of Allotments is requested for station KGET(TV).

<u>Community</u>	<u>TV Channel No.</u>			
	<u>Proposed by FCC</u>		<u>Proposed by KGET(TV)</u>	
	<u>NTSC</u>	<u>DTV</u>	<u>NTSC</u>	<u>DTV</u>
Bakersfield, CA	17	54	17	8

A TV allocation study shows DTV Channel 8 can be allotted to Bakersfield, California, according to the Commission minimum distance separation Rules (Section 73.207 for NTSC allotment and proposed DTV allocation criteria listed in Sixth FNPRM.

The attached map (Exhibit E-1) shows the minimum separation arcs from the pertinent NTSC and DTV stations for the DTV Channel 8 operation at Bakersfield, California, and the area where a fully-spaced antenna site for the proposed TV station can be located.

A reference antenna site within the area has been selected for illustrative purposes which meets the minimum distance separation requirements to all the existing and proposed stations and allotments. The geographic coordinates (NAD-27) of the reference site are as follows:

North Latitude: 35° 25' 07"

West Longitude: 118° 45' 15"

The reference site is located in Bakersfield, California, approximately 2.6 km southwest of the present site. The attached Table I provides the distance to the nearest NTSC TV station or DTV allotment on and adjacent to Channel 8. The Table indicates there are no existing or proposed TV stations or allotments which would preclude the DTV Channel 8 assignment to Bakersfield. All distances were computed using the FCC listed geographic coordinates and are based on Section 73.208 of the Commission's Rules.

A TV operation with 5 kW effective radiated power and 400 meters antenna height above average terrain from the reference antenna site would provide City Grade (77 dBu) service to all of Bakersfield, California, as required by Section 73.315(a) of the Commission's Rules. The Commission has proposed in the Sixth FNPRM that actual DTV transmitter would be permitted within 3 miles (4.8 km) of the reference site. Therefore, station KGET(TV) wants to reserve its rights to use its current NTSC site for DTV Channel 8 operation which is located approximately 2.6 km northeast of the reference site.

It has been demonstrated above that DTV Channel 8 (180-186 MHz) can be allotted to Bakersfield, California, according to the minimum distance NTSC separation requirements of Section 73.207 of the Commission's Rules and proposed DTV minimum distance separation requirements. There is a large area available south of

the community for an antenna site. Accordingly, KGET(TV) could under the new amended TV rules operate with a DTV channel which is in the stations core region and not impact existing NTSC proposed DTV allotments. Therefore, AK Media Group, Inc. requests the Commission to allot Channel 8 instead of Channel 54 for its DTV operation at Bakersfield, California.

COHEN, DIPPELL AND EVERIST, P. C.

TABLE I
TV ALLOCATION SITUATION
FOR THE PROPOSED DTV ALLOTMENT
OF CHANNEL 8 BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA
JANUARY 1997

DTV TO DTV VHF STUDIES

<u>Channel</u>	<u>Call</u>	<u>City/State</u>	<u>Geographic Coordinates</u>	<u>Distance</u>	
				<u>Actual km</u>	<u>Required km</u>
8	Ref. Site	Bakersfield, CA	35-25-07 118-45-15	--	--
8	None within 300 km		--	--	273.6
9	KNXT	Visalia, CA	36-17-14 118-50-17	96.7	96.6

DTV TO NTSC VHF STUDIES

8	KSBW	Salinas, CA	37-03-30 121-46-33	326.9	273.6
8	KFMB	San Diego, CA	32-50-17 117-14-56	318.1	273.6
9	KCAL	Los Angeles, CA	34-13-38 118-04-00	146.4	146.4
7	KABC	Los Angels, CA	34-13-37 118-03-58	146.4	146.4

